(c) the action proposed by Government to improve the quality ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Medium wave reception is not audible in certain pockets of Darjeeling hills due to the terrain conditions.

(b) Certain pockets in Darjeeling hills do not receive satisfactory signal from HPT, Kurseong as these pockets lie in shadow areas formed due to terrain conditions.

(c) A 10 KWFM Tr. is to be installed at Darjeeling during 9th Five Year Plan which will improve the radio coverage in Darjeeling hills. Doordarshan also transmits its programmes through Satellite mode, which can be received in any part of the country, through dish antenna. However, further improvement of terrestrial TV coverage in Darjeeling district would depend upon future availability of resources.

**New Satellite Channel for J & K**

2527. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently launched new Satellite Channel for Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) if so, the complete details of programme likely to be aired on the new channel;

(c) whether a large number of producers have submitted TV Serials/other programmes for this channel under Commissioned/sponsored cateegory;

(d) if so, what are the names of such serials/programmes with names of producers; and

(e) what is the policy being adopted in selection of these serials/programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Entertainment oriented and programmes on women, youth, children, sports, current affairs, etc., are telecast on this channel.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(e) Proposals are initially screened by a Short-listing Committee consisting of Doordarshan officers and outside experts on the basis of programme requirements of Doordarshan. Thereafter, the shortlisted proposals are placed before the Screening-cum-Costing Committee consisting of Programme officers, Duty Director General (Finance) and the representatives of Ministry of Home Affairs. The porposals are accepted based upon the following broad criteria:—

(i) Relevance of the story, theme or the subject to the requirements of the channel.

(ii) Treatment of the subject/story line.

(iii) Conformity to the Telecast Code.

(iv) Track Record of the Production Team.

**Private Satellite TV Channels**

2528. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that some private satellite T.V. Channels have become "pay channel" due to non-availability of advertisements for sponsoring their programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and